## **REMARKS**

Applicants respectfully request that the foregoing amendments to claims 3-17be entered prior to examination in order to avoid this application incurring a surcharge for the presence of one or more multiple dependent claims. An early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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FOLEY & LARDNER LLP Customer Number: 22428 Telephone: (202) 672-5414

Telephone: (20 Facsimile: (20

(202) 672-5399

Richard L. Schwaab Attorney for Applicant

By Rehmunal

Registration No. 25,479